

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Mitsuya SATO) : Examiner: P. KIM
Divisional Application of:) : Group Art Unit: 2851
Application No. 09/276,834 :
Filed: March 26, 1999)
: :
Filed: August 29, 2001)
: :
For: EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND) August 29, 2001
METHOD, DEVICE MANUFACTURING :
METHOD, AND DISCHARGE LAMP)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 7, insert the following new paragraph:

-- This application is a divisional of copending U.S. Application No.
09/279,834, filed March 26, 1999. --

Divisional Application of U.S. Application No. 09/276,834 of SATO

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2-11 and 13-24 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the claimed subject matter.

REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable consideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

The specification has been amended to reflect its divisional status. No new matter has been added.

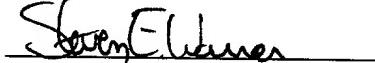
Claims 1, 12 and 25-35 are presented for consideration. Claims 1, 12, 26 and 31 are independent. Applicant submits that these claims patentably define features of the subject invention.

Applicant further submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and an early passage to issue are requested.

Divisional Application of U.S. Application No. 09/276,834 of SATO

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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